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March 17, 1998

LB 309, 989, 1026, 1035, 1070, 1073A, 1129
1175, 1229

minutes.

SENATOR DW. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein, Senator Will and members. As I said, this is not a new issue for me. This has been some years that I've worked with these people, the young people who brought me this bill. This is 4,000 teenagers who are in support, and I'm sure there's many more out there, 'cause they're laughing at us and what we do with MIPs, they're laughing at us. People I know, teenagers, have been there for 35 years. They respond well when they're told what to do and made to do it, and they respond well to consequences, and that's what this is, a consequence. I am pleased to hear that some of the leaders say it's a good idea. As long as I'm here it won't be a dead idea 'cause I will be bringing it back. But every one of you know, every time we read that paper with a young person's death, after a party, from either alcoholic poisoning, suicide or car wreck, we think what a travesty and yet we're afraid to make these kind of decisions. Yes, I don't want to hold up 309, and I'm not preaching to you people, but I'm telling you it will work. It would have a major impact on the kids' drinking, 'cause they respond well to consequences. That's what's happened to our society as far as I'm concerned, anyway, 'cause we don't tell kids what to do and make them do it anymore, we let them make their own decisions, knowing that they can't make very good emotional decisions until the age of 21, which was the mean of adulthood since the beginning of time. Any more than that I would be preaching at you. And, with that, I will pull this amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR WILL: The amendment is withdrawn. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, may I read some items very quickly?

SENATOR WILL: Items for the record.

CLERK: Thank you. Mr. President, I have amendments to be printed from Senator Witek to 1070; Senator Vrtiska to 1026; Senator Tyson, 1129; Senator Schimek, 1175 and 1229; Senator Brown to 1035; Senator Coordsen to 989; Senator Tyson, 989. New A bill, 1073A by Senator Wesely. (Read by title for the first time. See pages 1084-98 of the Legislative Journal.)